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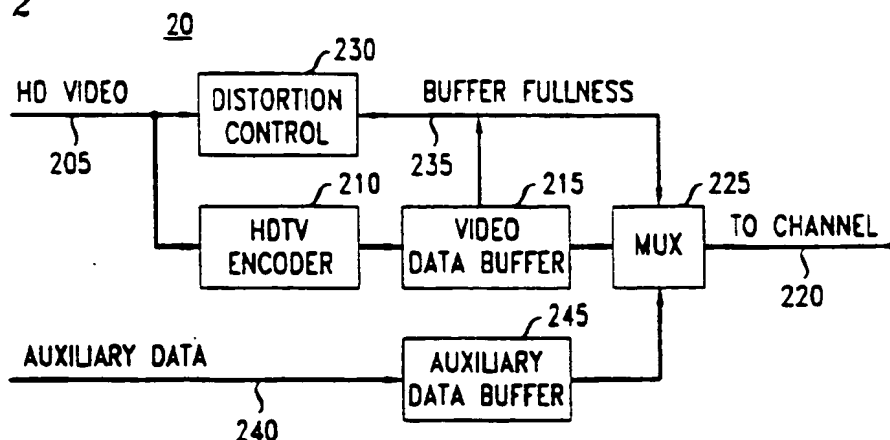
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(54) Method of incorporating a variable rate auxiliary data stream with a variable rate primary data stream

(57) A method of incorporating an auxiliary signal with an input video signal includes the step of encoding the input video signal to generate a variable bit rate encoded signal having a selected level of distortion. The video signal is applied to a buffer. The level of distortion is selected as a function of the fullness of the buffer. The

video signal is read from the buffer and applied to a transmission channel at a predetermined video output rate. Portions of an auxiliary signal are applied to the channel at times when the buffer is in an underflow condition. The selected level of distortion has a flow which corresponds to a predetermined, non-zero level of perceptual distortion in the video signal.

FIG. 2



EP 0 692 914 A3



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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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			H04N

The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search <b>THE HAGUE</b>	Date of completion of the search <b>25 February 1999</b>	Examiner <b>Fassnacht, C</b>
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EPO FORM 1533 01/82 (P04/C01)

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